

In the Claims:

1.(Original) A fracturing fluid comprising a polar base, 0.1-5.0% of a mid-molecular weight polyacrylate, and an activator for ionizing said polyacrylate to a hygroscopic state.

2.(Currently Amended) A fracturing fluid comprising a polar base, 0.1-5.0% of a mid-molecular weight polyacrylate, and an activator for ionizing said polyacrylate to a hygroscopic state ~~A fluid as claimed in claim 1~~, wherein said polyacrylate is a polyacrylic acid polymer cross linked with polyalkenyl ethers or di-vinyl glycol.

3.(Original) A fluid as claimed in claim 2, wherein said polyacrylate is present in particles of about 0.2 micron diameter.

4.(Original) A fluid as claimed in claim 3, wherein said fluid is provided with 0.1-5.0% (wt) of an activator to initiate hydration of said polyacrylate.

5.(Original) A fluid as claimed in claim 4, wherein said activator is selected from triethanolamine, NaOH, KOH and NH_4OH .

6.(Currently Amended) A fluid as claimed in claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~, further including a breaker in an amount of 0.1-1.0% wt.

7.(Currently Amended) A fracturing fluid comprising a polar base, 0.1-5.0% of a mid-molecular weight polyacrylate, an activator for ionizing said polyacrylate to a hygroscopic state, and

a breaker ~~A fluid as claimed in claim 6~~, wherein said breaker is encapsulated.

8.(Currently Amended) A fluid as claimed in claim 6 ~~or~~

7, wherein said breaker is an organic or inorganic salt.

9. (Previously Amended) A fluid as claimed in claim 6, wherein said breaker is NaCl or KCl.

10. (Currently Amended) A fluid as claimed in claim 1 ~~any of claims 1 to 9~~, wherein said polar base is selected from the groups including water, methanol, ethanol, propanol and isopropanol.

11. (Currently Amended) A fluid as claimed in claim 1 ~~any of claims 1 to 10~~, emulsified with liquid CO₂ or N₂ and a surfactant.

12. (Original) A fluid as claimed in claim 11, emulsified with liquid CO₂ in an amount of 50-52% to 94-95% (volume).

13. (Currently Amended) A fluid as claimed in claim 11 ~~12~~, wherein said surfactant is an ethoxylated alkylphenol.

14. (Currently Amended) A fluid as claimed in claim 11 ~~8~~, containing up to ~~[[0-]]~~50% N₂ or CO₂.

15. (New) A fracturing fluid consisting essentially of a polar base, 0.1-5.0% of a mid-molecular weight polyacrylate, and an activator for ionizing said polyacrylate to a hygroscopic state.

16. (New) A fluid as claimed in claim 15, further including a breaker in an amount of 0.1-1.0% wt.

17. (New) A fluid as claimed in claim 16, wherein said breaker is an organic or inorganic salt.

18. (New) A fluid as claimed in claim 16, wherein said breaker is NaCl or KCl.

19.(New) A fluid as claimed in claim 16, wherein said polar base is selected from the groups including water, methanol, ethanol, propanol and isopropanol.

20.(New) A fluid as claimed in claim 16, emulsified with liquid CO₂ or N₂ and a surfactant.